

The Lehi Roundup Celebration Condensed from the Oral History of George Tripp

One of the oldest city celebrations is the Lehi Roundup. We sponsored the professional rodeo, a three-day professional rodeo in conjunction with the parades that went along with that. We called it a celebration.

They asked me to come and work on the Lehi Civic Improvement Association the year after I was married in 1949. I served on the committee, as the director or president until 2003. I served 55 years on that. That still goes on. We have a week long celebration.

1987 [looking at his belt buckle] was the 50th year, so 1937. We have built the rodeo grounds up and remodeled it several times. We have made it available for use year round free of charge to the public. A lot of the young people use it year round, especially in the good weather months.

The earlier rodeos were held down in Evans Field. They didn't have an arena, so they parked their cars all around to make a big corral. They would bring their stock in there. They would rope them and saddle them right there in the area. Some of the cowboys and even some of the Indians out on the reservation would come and ride in that. The PRCA, Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association, sponsored it. They

don't sponsor it now, but they are representative of the rodeo cowboys.

It used to be it was the Turtle Association that represented the whole cowboys. That is just what they named it. Then it turned out to be the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association which is worldwide now.

Yes, the events are pretty much the same as they are today. They had dances, city dances, parades, put on shows, and things like that.